

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 08377 301549Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
TRSE-00 NRC-05 ACDA-12 OMB-01 /083 W
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R 301105Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1870
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 8377

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: IR, IN
SUBJECT: INDO-IRANIAN CONSULTATIONS

1. THE TIMES OF INDIA MONDAY HEADLINED A STORY FROM TEHRAN ON FONMIN VAJPAYEE'S VISIT TO THERE, "INDIA REFUSES TO BACK IRAN'S PLAN FOR ANTI-RED BLOC". FONSEC HAS TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE STORY BEARS NO RESEMBLANCE TO WHAT WENT ON IN THE DISCUSSIONS.
2. FROM JAGAT MEHTA'S POINT OF VIEW THE DISCUSSIONS WERE VERY SATISFACTORY. IG, MADE NO REQUEST OF INDIA TO LINE UP VERSUS AFGHANISTAN AND RUSSIA. THE TWO SIDES SHARED VIEWS ON THE AFGHANIS- TAN AND PAKISTAN SITUATIONS AND ALSO OVER THE SOVIETS INTENTIONS AND PROBLEMS IN AFRICA. THE SHAH SEEMED TO APPRECIATE THE POSSI- BILITY THAT THE GOI, BECAUSE IT SEEMS TO BE TRUSTED BY THE NEW AFGHAN LEADERS, MAY BE AN INFLUENCE ON THEM TOWARD NATIONALISTIC NON-ALIGNMENT. HE ALSO SEEMED TO RESPECT INDIA'S ACTIONS AND GENERAL POSITION VIS-A-VIS PAKISTAN AND SAW PAKISTAN'S STRAIGHT- ENING OUT OF ITS INTERNAL PROBLEMS AS A KEY REQUIREMENT FOR REGIONAL STABILITY. MEHTA DID NOT MENTION ANY APPROACH BY THE SHAH ON SOUTH ASIAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS ISSUES.

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3. IN A PRESS INTERVIEW AFTER HIS RETURN TO NEW DELHI, REPORTED IN TODAY'S PRESS, THE FON MINISTER SOUGHT TO CORRECT THE ERRONEOUS IMPRESSIONS CREATED BY THE NEWS STORY FROM TEHRAN. WE WILL BE REPORTING PRESS ACCOUNTS IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE.
GOHEEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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